


Wareham

B O R O U G H o f W A R E H A M



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1961



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FOREWORD

Public Health Office,
Health Centre,
Swanage, Dorset.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Wareham

Madam Mayor, Mrs. Ray and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Wareham for the year 1961.

The Report is set out in sections in the following order:-

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The health of the district, generally speaking, remained satisfactory throughout the year and no case of serious infectious disease was notified.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General at mid 1961, as based on the 1961 Census, showed an increase of 310 on the Census population of 1951. Births registered show an increase of one and deaths three fewer than in 1960.

The vital statistics compare very favourably with those for the country as a whole.

As mentioned in previous reports a noticeable feature of recent years has been the increase in house building by private enterprise in the Borough. This was maintained during 1961.

The urgent need for an efficient sewage disposal works which will adequately treat the Town's sewage, especially in view of the development which has recently taken place and which is likely to take place, is again stressed.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration during the year, and the other Officials of the Council for their help and co-operation, especially your Public Health Inspector, Mr. Tanner who has helped to prepare this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

E. J. O'KEEFE,

Medical Officer of Health

July, 1962.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. J. O'Keefe, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. R. Tanner, M.S.I.A.

The Medical Officer of Health holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health to the Swanage Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health to the Wareham & Purbeck Rural District Council.

Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer, Dorset County Council.

Office accommodation and clerical assistance are provided for the Medical Officer of Health jointly by the Authorities concerned.

The Public Health Inspector in addition to his statutory duties is also the Borough Surveyor and Petroleum Officer.

The Committees of the Council concerned with matters of Public Health are the Law and General Purposes Committee, the Waterworks and Sewerage Works Committee and the Housing Committee.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the Borough	...	...	...	...	710 acres
Population	...	...	at Census 1951	...	2,760
			at Census 1961	...	3,094
			as estimated by Registrar General mid 1960	...	2,900
			as estimated by Registrar General mid 1961	...	3,070
Number of inhabited houses	...		at end of 1960	...	939
Number of inhabited houses	...		at end of 1961	...	939
Rateable value at 1st. April, 1961			...	...	£34,100
Product of 1d. rate 31st. March, 1961			...	...	£135.3.9

VITAL STATISTICS

Area comparability factors for births 1.04 for deaths 0.54

						<u>Comparative Rates</u>	
<u>Live Births</u>						<u>Wareham</u>	<u>England</u>
						<u>Borough</u>	<u>& Wales</u>
Total registered	...	...	46	25	21		
Legitimate	...	...	43	22	21		
Illegitimate	...	...	3	3	-		
Rate per 1000 population 15.0	...		...	...	...	15.6	17.4
<u>Illegitimate Live Births</u> per cent of total live births						6.5	
<u>Still Births</u>							
Total registered	...	...	1	1	-		
Legitimate	...	...	1	1	-		
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-
Rate per 1000 total live and still births			...	...	...	21.3	18.7
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>							
Total registered	...	...	47	26	21		
<u>Deaths</u>							
Total registered	...	...	64	26	38		
Rate per 1000 population 20.8	...		...	...	...	11.3	12.0
<u>Infant Deaths (under 1 year)</u>							
Total registered	...	...	1	1	-		
Legitimate	...	...	1	1	-		
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>							
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births			...	...	...	21.7	21.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births			...	...	...	23.3	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births						Nil	
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)						21.7	
<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)						21.7	
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births)						42.6	
<u>Maternal Mortality</u> (including abortion)							
Number of deaths	...	...	1				
Rate per 1000 total live and still births			...	...	...	21.3	

CAUSES OF DEATH - YEAR 1961

(Supplied by the Registrar General)

Cause of Death					<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	-	-	-
8	Measles	...	...	...	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...	-	-	-
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	1	1	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lumphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	2	7	9
15	Leukemia, aleukemia	...	...	...	-	1	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	2	3	5
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	3	5	8
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	-	1	1
20	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	3	5	8
21	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	4	1	5
22	Influenza	...	...	...	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	2	6
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	1	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	-	-	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	-	1	1
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	...	...	...	2	8	10
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	-	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	-	-	-
35	Suicide	...	...	...	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total					26	38	64

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Poole and East Dorset Water Board which came into being on the 1st. April, 1960, control the public piped water supply in the Borough. The water supply to the area was satisfactory both in quantity and quality throughout the year.

Particulars supplied by the Poole and East Dorset Water Board

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager for the following information which is taken from that supplied for the Board's southern district which comprises the Borough of Wareham, the Urban District of Swanage and the Rural District of Wareham and Purbeck. The water supplied by the Board in the district derives from wells or boreholes at Worgret, Briantspuddle, Bloxworth, Corfe Castle, Ulwell and Church Knowle. The water for the Borough of Wareham is supplied from the Worgret source.

Details of Source and Treatment Applied

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type of Source</u>	<u>Depth of Well</u>	<u>Treatment Applied</u>
Worgret	Well	30 feet	Iron removal and pH correction, pressure filtration & chlorination.

During the year 86,360,000 gallons of water was abstracted from the Worgret source. The water was maintained at a high level of purity and was sufficient to meet all demands.

Twenty five samples were taken from consumers' taps by the Public Health Inspector for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Service Laboratory and the following results were reported -

<u>Local Authority Area</u>	<u>Total Number of Samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Wareham Borough	25	22	2	1	0

Regular bacteriological examinations of both raw and distributed water were made in the Board's Laboratory giving the following results -

Raw Water

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No. of samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>				<u>Max</u>	<u>Coli 1</u>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>PC at 37° C</u>	<u>Demonstrated</u>
Worgret	35	27	7	0	1	750	0

(PC = plate count)

Distributed Water

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No. of Samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Worgret	44	44	0	0	0

Plumbo Solvency

The raw water from Worgret is plumbo solvent. This is corrected during the iron removal process continuously applied at the source.

Chemical Analyses

Frequent checks of chlorine residual are made in the control of treatment plants and in samples taken from mains and consumers' taps throughout the area of supply.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF RAW WATER TAKEN FROM WORGRET PUMPING STATION

Chemical Results in Milligrammes per litre

Appearance - colourless and faintly turbid.

pH	6.8	Taste & Odour 'flat' tasting & odourless.	
Hardness	71.0	Temporary	13.0
		Permanent	58.0
Total Solids, dried at 180° C			181.0
Chlorine in Chlorides..	22.5	Fluorine	Nil
Nitrates	2.45	Nitrites	0.001
Free Ammonia	0.130	Albuminoid Ammonia..	0.100
Metals	Fe 3.98		
Free carbon dioxide	28.5		
Residual Chlorine	-		
Alkalinity	90.0		

Bacteriological Results

Number of Bacteria growing on Agar per ml in 24 hrs. at 37° C	0
" " " " " " " " " " 48 hrs. at 37° C	3
Coli aerogenes Count per 100 ml.	0
Escherichia coli Count per 100 ml.	0

Radioactive Substances

BetaActivity in microcuries per millilitre

Total B. Activity 0.53×10^{-8} uc/ml

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

By the end of the year the whole of the Carey Development Estate (Phase I) had been completed and all the dwellings connected to the new pumping station in the south western corner of the Estate. In addition 20 dwellings on Phase II which is situated in the adjoining Rural District had also been connected. The pump here is a Pulsometer Solids Diverter type and functions very well.

The sewerage system in addition to serving the Borough receives sewage from some 59 houses in the Bestwall area and 12 forestry houses at Carey, both situated in the adjoining Rural District. There were no reports of flooding at the Old Granary and the minor works carried out have definitely improved matters. Of course heavy flows of storm water do constitute a problem and will need consideration when a new works is installed.

No. of houses not connected to the sewer	...	...	13
No. of houses with pail closets	...	...	Nil
No. of houses with cesspools or septic tanks	...	...	11
No. of pail closets abolished during the year	...	...	2
No. of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	2
No. of houses connected to the sewer during the year			34

The sewerage consists of three pumping stations situated at South Bestwall, North Bridge and Northport, and a disposal works is situated on eight acres of land at Sandford Lane. The length of rising mains is 4,100 yds. The Carey Estate development discharge is pumped into Carey Road which gravitates to the Northport station.

The disposal works consist of:-

- 1 Balancing Tank - capacity 7,314 gallons
- 2 Dortmund Tanks - capacity 39,060 gallons
- 8 Sludge Beds - area 8,100 sq.ft.

An area of approximately 5 acres of land is used for the treatment of the effluent from the Dortmund Tanks. Whereas the effluent used to discharge at random on to the land the area is now laid out in a regular pattern in a series of "lagoons", and the effluent can be controlled to some extent. The works, however, are grossly overloaded and the ground is now "sewage sick", furthermore the dry weather flow from the three pumping stations is now a substantial one and there is not proper settlement of the sewage in the settlement tanks. Consequently the effluent passing through the perimeter of the works is now substantial and during very wet weather is more so owing to the ingress of surface water into the foul sewers.

The treatment of sewage has been inadequate for many years owing to the overloading of the sewage disposal plant. Effluent from the sedimentation tanks escapes into the neighbouring stream with little treatment. There have been complaints of nuisance due to smell from houses near the sewage works, and conditions are bound to deteriorate with increasing housing development in the Borough. These conditions within the boundary of the Borough cannot be described other than prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants, and should be remedied as soon as possible by the provision of an efficient sewage disposal system.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections

Bakehouses	2	Food Premises	17	Samples-	
Building Byelaws	295	Factories	14	Water: (Bact.)	25
Butchers' Shops	4	Housing(Housing Acts)	42	Schools	2
Cafes	10	Housing(General)	464	Sewage disposal	
Caravan sites	3	Housing(Capital works)	27	works & sewerage	48
Dairies	1	Public Lavatories	3	Market	1
Drainage	89	Public Health Acts	6	Miscellaneous	276
Food Inspection	1	Refuse collection	28		

Total 1,358

Statutory and Informal Notices

<u>Notices</u>	<u>Number Served</u>	<u>Complied With</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Informal	8	7	1
Statutory	Nil	Nil	Nil

Control of Moveable Dwellings

The one caravan site in the Borough is situated on the North Causeway and the Lessee is now permitted to station up to 44 caravans including 20 residential. A site licence was granted in respect of this site under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 subject to certain conditions. All services are provided and the modern sanitary block is drained to a septic tank and filter. Frequent visits are made to this site which is maintained in an excellent condition.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council own one "Karrier" refuse vehicle and house and trade refuse collections are undertaken by the Council, collections being made weekly. The Council have now decided to purchase a new vehicle as the existing one is not considered large enough and as the tip is now further away more time is spent on this service. A 12/18 cubic yds. "Gibson Pendulum" vehicle is now on order and it is hoped to reduce the time of collection to 2 - 2½ days which will allow 2½ - 3 days for other urgent works. This vehicle too, will be more hygienic and has a low loading line which will assist the men. A small amount of salvage is collected whenever possible.

Street Cleansing

The main streets are cleansed and swept daily and the minor streets as often as possible. Two men, one full-time and one part-time are employed. The minor streets could be cleansed more frequently but the labour is just not available. As the several private streets now taking shape are completed this of course will have to be reviewed. The Council during the year asphalted a further street and this policy does minimise the amount of cleansing but unfortunately litter is deposited. The Council are providing extra litter baskets of a larger type in strategic positions which it is hoped will remind the public of their obligation.

Public Lavatories

There are two conveniences in the Borough situated at Howards Lane (women and men) and St John's Hill (men only). These are cleansed daily and well maintained. It is regretted that constant hooliganism is being reported, and the walls in one of the mens have been treated with a "Tyrolean" finish to maintain cleanliness.

Swimming Baths

There is one swimming bath in the Borough at the County Modern School for the use of the pupils. Bathing takes place in the River Frome near the Quay during the summer months. There is no public swimming bath in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement and Clean Air Act, 1956

No action was necessary under this Act.

Petroleum Acts and Regulations

Ten Licences are in force for the storage of petroleum spirit. Occasional visits are paid in respect of these.

Disinfestation - No infestations were reported during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

All bottled milk comes from outside the Borough. All milk sold is either "Pasteurised", "Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised" or "Tuberculin Tested" as the Borough is part of a specified area under Section 37 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Number of Milk Distributors on Register 31.12.61 ... 8

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960

The above mentioned Regulations which came into force on 1st. January, 1961 removed from Local Authorities the responsibility of milk licences, all dealers licences now being issued by the Food and Drugs Authority while Supplementary Licences are abolished altogether.

No milk licences were therefore issued by this Council.

Milk Sampling

During the year 29 samples of milk were taken in the Borough by the Food and Drug Authority for examination. All samples passed the statutory tests.

Food Inspected and Condemned

Tinned Goods 3 qtrs. 1 lb.
Pastry Puff 12 packets

There are no slaughter houses in the Borough.

Food Premises

(1) Number of Food Premises by Type of Business in the Area

Grocers	11	Bakehouses	1	Cafes and	
Green-grocers	5	Fish Shops	3	Restaurants	4
Butchers	5	Fried Fish Shops	2	Licensed	
Dairies	1	Sweets and		Premises	11
		Confectionery	7	(including	
				3 hotels.	

(2) Number of Food Premises by Type Registered

(a) Under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955

Manufacture of sausages and preserved foods	...	...	6
Fish Frying premises	...	...	2
Sale of ice cream	...	...	21

(b) Dairies	1
-------------	-----	-----	-----	---

(3) Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Premises for manufacture of sausages	...	...	4
Fish frying premises	...	...	3
Ice-cream premises	...	...	13
Dairy premises	...	...	1

Inspections of Food Premises, Cafes, etc.

Visits were carried out to the majority of the various food premises but in no cases were formal actions necessary.

Informal notices served during the year in connection with food premises - 5.

H O U S I N G

Thirty four dwellings were erected during the year. No Council dwellings were erected. The Carey Development Estate (Phase I) was completed during the year.

During the year further progress was made with regard to the Sandford Road Housing Estate. Tenders were obtained for roads and sewers on this estate. Plans were also approved for nine one-bedroom flats on a parcel of land in Brixey's Lane.

The application list for houses continues to grow and it is hoped to build more houses during the next few years.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	17
Number of inspections made	...	...	42
Number of informal notices served	...	...	7
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	6
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	Nil
Number of houses reported under Section 16 of the			
		Housing Act, 1957	Nil

Action taken by the Local Authority in respect of such houses:-

(a) Demolition Orders made	...	...	Nil
(b) Undertakings accepted for:-			
(i) Closure	...	...	Nil
(ii) Reconditioning	...	...	Nil
(iii) Other action	...	...	4

Number of houses included in clearance area for the year. Nil

Overcrowding

No cases of statutory overcrowding were reported during the year.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

The following Grants were made during the year:-

Discretionary Grants in respect of 6 dwellings.
Standard Grants in respect of 4 dwellings.
Total improved to date - 61.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.

Housing Applications

The following shows the number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses:-

Persons residing in the Borough	45
Persons residing outside the Borough	31
Aged Persons (Borough Bungalows)	32

Housing Programme

	<u>No. of Houses</u> <u>proposed</u>	<u>Completed in</u> <u>1961</u>	<u>Completed since</u> <u>1945</u>
Sandford Road	36	Nil	Nil
Brixey's Lane	9 (Flats)	Nil	Nil

New Houses

Total number erected during 1961	...	34
Number erected with State assistance:-		
(a) By Local Authority	...	Nil
(b) By other Bodies or Persons	...	Nil

<u>Houses Owned by Local Authority</u>	<u>Built Pre-war</u>	<u>Built since</u> <u>1945</u>	<u>Total</u>
Permanent	103	147	250
Prefabricated bungalows...	-	10	10

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

It is pleasing to report the continued absence of serious infectious disease in the Borough during 1961. Cases notified were of a mild nature and none were admitted to hospital for treatment.

Apart from six deaths from pneumonia there were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

Immunisation

Schemes for immunisation are administered in the area by the County Council as the Local Health Authority. Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, Dollins Lane, on the second and fourth Thursday every month from 2 to 4 p.m.

Immunisation is also carried out by the Medical Practitioners in the area including immunisation against smallpox.

Immunisation with B.C.G. of the older age group children is carried out at schools in the area by the medical officers of the Local Health Authority.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The scheme for immunisation against poliomyelitis includes all ages up to 40 years. In addition priority groups include medical practitioners and their families, ambulance workers, expectant mothers and nurses.

Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics, Wareham Borough 1961

(P) Primary dose (B) Booster dose

B.C.G.	Poliomyelitis			Diphtheria		Whooping cough		Tetanus		Smallpox	
	P	3rd.	4th.	P	B	P	B	P	B	P	B
69	121	204	311	44	17	41	2	44	10	22	-

Notifications (Corrected) Figures

Disease	Total	1st. Qtr.	2nd. Qtr.	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet fever	3	2	1	-	-	-
Measles	65	-	17	45	3	-
Tuberculosis -respiratory	2	-	-	1	1	-
other forms	2	-	2	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	1	-	-	-

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified During 1961

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Age Groups</u>									
		Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	Over 25	A.U.
Scarlet fever	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
Measles	65	-	4	4	3	5	46	2	-	1	-
		Under 5	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Ov.	A.U.			
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Other forms	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Scabies and Verminous Conditions

No cases of verminous conditions nor of scabies were reported during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47.

Removal of persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises.

It was not necessary to take any formal action under this section of the Act during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1959

Part I of the Act

- 1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	14	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	37	14	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re- medied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total ...	2	2	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK - Section 110 and 111

Outworkers - NIL

